GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:473
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2008
RURAL ELECTRIFICATION
Oram Shri Jual;Singh Shri Prabhunath

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria fixed for selecting a village for electrification and the norms to declare it an electrified village;

(b) whether the Rural Electrification Corporation has failed to achieve the desired result in rural electrification programme during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(c) if so, the targets set and achieved during the Plan, State-wise and year-wise;

(d) the target fixed for allocation of funds and the actual release for the programme for the years 2007-08 and 2008-09, State-wise;and

(e) the time by which all villages in the country are likely to be electrified?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF POWER(SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE)

(a) to (e) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 473 TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 25.04.2008 REGARDING RURAL ELECTRIFICATION.

(a) : In terms of the definition effective from 2004−05, a village would be declared electrified if

(i) Basic infrastructure such as distribution transformer and distribution lines are provided in the inhabited locality as well as the dalit basti/hamlet where it exists. (For electrification through Non-Conventional Energy Sources a distribution transformer may not be necessary);

(ii) Electricity is provided to public places like schools, panchayat offices, health centres, dispensaries, community centres etc. ; and

(iii) The number of households electrified should be at least 10% of the total number of households in the village.

(b) : No, Sir.Execution of Rural Electrification (RE) works including village electrification and release of rural household connections is the responsibility of implementing agencies and the concerned state governments.Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd., as a nodal agency for Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY),facilitates flow of funds from Ministry of Power to implementing agencies/states,processing of Detailed Project Reports received from state governments, monitoring of RGGVY program besides co-ordination with the Monitoring Committee on RGGVY and other stake holders.In fact, the progress in rural electrification in the States was dismal in the Ninth and early years of the Tenth Five Year Plan.Achievements in rural electrification picked up only with the introduction of RGGVY, which provides for 90% central subsidy for rural electrification. The achievement of village electrification was 13,409 unelectrified villages in the five years of the Ninth Plan (1997-2002) and 9,291 unelectrified villages during 2002-05, whereas 38,525 unelectrified villages were got electrified during 2005-07.The year-wise number of villages, where the implementing agencies have reported completion of RE works under RGGVY during 10th Plan are given at Annex-I.

(c) : State-wise number of villages wherein Rural Electrification works under RGGVY have been reportedly completed during 10th Plan period are given at Annex-II.

(d) : State-wise and year-wise funds are not allocated under RGGVY.Funds are released in instalments, commensurate with the progress reported by the State/implementing agencies, certifying that 80% of the amount released earlier has been utilized and subject to fulfillment of the conditionalities stipulated in the sanction letter in terms of RGGVY guidelines as also the availability of funds with Government. The Year-wise funds disbursed and target fixed for allocation of funds by Ministry of Power for the year 2007-08 and 2008-09 are given at Annex-III.

(e) : RGGVY has envisaged providing access to electricity to all households, electrification of about 1.15 lakh un-electrified villages and electricity connections to 2.34 crore BPL households by 2009.